

About Broadway Plays And Players

By HIDE DUDLEY.

NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—Don't fail to see "The First Year" on your theatrical calendar, for this play by Frank Craven at the Little Theatre, with its author setting the leading role unimpeachably, is too good to miss. This comic-tragedy of married life is funny because it is true, so true that you, perhaps, may find yourself laughing at your own experiences.

Mr. Craven has a keen sense of the difficulties, sentimental and economic, that confront so-called new-weds, and in "The First Year" he has surpassed "Too Many Cooks." With small down people doing commonplace things he achieves a triumph of the commonplace, for the reason that his characters are so simple and human, most simple of all is Tommy Tucker, trying vainly to be romantic in the hope of vanquishing an accomplished rival, and then to his great surprise finding the girl of his heart in his arms. But it is the awkward Tommy proposing to the girl with his hands in his pockets that first catches your eye, and then again Tommy in a blissful state at midnight kicking a foot that has gone to sleep. Grace is tired

of the town and wants to see "strange faces," in spite of the fact that she is gazing into a singularly strange one, and so it happens that Tommy and who are not seen in Joplin, Mo. Is their little flat they are to give a dinner to the purchasing agent of a railroad who is after an amusement park upon which Tommy holds an option. This dinner, not to mention the preparations for it, is one of the delights of the play.

Another delightfully humorous characterization is accomplished by William Sampson, as the father who is usually so engrossed in his newspaper that he pays little attention to anybody. Robert Arnold does good work as the somewhat high-tempered, selfish young wife's friend, Granger, who plays the mother in a comfortable, settled way. Tim Murphy is more than indulgent as the doctor, and Leo Bennett is a real joy as the colored maid who plays a large part in the dinner.

"The First Year" is the laughing bit of the season, and in it Frank Craven scores the hit of his life.

A NEW COMEDY.

A comedy bearing the dazzling title of "Bright Angela" will be produced in the near future by William Moore Patrick. It is by Louis Chaspin, playwright, of St. Louis. In the cast are Catherine Kohl, James Sedley, Charles Gott-hold and a number of other players of repute. The opening performance will be given in Syracuse about the middle of November. This comedy has given a try-out in stock several months ago and showed much promise.

WHEN ALICE BALKED.

Alice Deloys, star of "Algar," which Comstock & Galt will produce soon, will kiss no man who wears a mustache. That is final. Yesterday Irving Berlin, who is to play opposite her in "Algar," appeared for the first rehearsal wearing one with cute little tufts which could be twisted. The time

came for him to kiss Miss Deloys. He stepped forward, and, well, right there it happened. The fair French actress put the ban on the mustache. There was argument, but you know who won. Irving is a smooth-faced youth now. We'll bet Miss Deloys receives a fine floral piece from the barbers' union opening night.

THE WISDOM OF ANN.

Well, well! Ann Pennington, whose knee-caps are viewed by thousands on Broadway annually, has gone and got herself interviewed in Chicago. And what do you think she said? She asserted that it is the women, not the men, who are responsible for the increasing nudity on the stage today. "Don't blame the poor old bald-heads," said Ann. "The women want the bare legs. The skinny old maids love to go to the theatre and see beautiful legs and soft white arms and wonderful backs. They sit there and dream they have them themselves. I know this because I always get more applause at matinee per-

WHAT DON'T YOU KNOW?

What sort of snake did D. W. Griffith use to "Way Down East"? If John C. Fisher's name doesn't tell him, why doesn't he take Margaret Anglu? When Montague Glass wants a bath why doesn't he call in a window cleaner? If Alice were to wear her hair down her back, do you suppose it would look Brady? If your clock refuses to tick why not hear the Hotel Majestic?

GOSSIP.

Stuart Wilson is to join the cast of "Three Live Ghosts." Henry Hull's new play will be called "When We Were Young." Henry Wagstaff Gribble, author of

"The Outrageous Mrs. Palmer," is writing another play. Jack Hazard of "The Night Boat" is writing a play called "The Candidate."

Lily Brayton (Mrs. Oscar Amos) will play the role of Shylock in the London "Mecca" production.

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY.

Jeff Nutt, who weighs 230 pounds, says he used to be thin, but that one day he fell out of a tree and came down plump.

POOLISHMENT.

The butler to the waitress. A pretty girl named Nell. Said: "I'll wait only marry me. I'll ring the dinner bell." Then, holding up one finger. To which a maid and house. She said to him: "Please notice, sir. The dinner bell's been rung."

FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE.

A little boy got 10 cents' worth of

chicks at a store. What did he get them for? "I don't know." "For 10 cents."

Harvest Festival at Taft. Friday evening at the school house by the Parent-Teachers' association for the benefit of the Lunch Room. Coffee, pie and doughnuts will be served. Admission 25c. Everybody invited.—Adv.

Lee Newman, tenement collections.—Adv.

SMUGGLING OPTIM. Shanghai, China, Oct. 25.—Probably the most novel of the many queer methods employed to smuggle opium and narcotic drugs into the international settlement of Shanghai was brought to light when customs officers seized about 200 pounds of prepared opium that had been packed into the hollowed-out ham bones of a shipment of 250 hams that arrived as a part of a ship's cargo.

CARRIERS' DAY. As tomorrow is the last Saturday in this month, your carrier will call and collect 10 cents for the last half of October. Please remember that these boys attend school, and it will be appreciated if Herald subscribers are prepared to settle with them. Tenement property. See Lee Newman.—Adv. Kodak Finishing. See Gaudin.—Adv.

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Lamb Stew, lb. 15c
Lamb Legs, lb. 35c
Lamb Shoulder, lb. 20c
Rib & Loim Lamb Chops, lb. 30c
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